



PATENT
Attorney Docket No. 3359

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants: Mei et. al.

Serial No: 09/718,295

Filing Date: November 21, 2000

Inventors: Mei et. al.

Title: **Methods and Computer Software
Products for Selecting Nucleic Acid
Probes**

Examiner: Allen, Marianne P.

Group Art Unit: 1631

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Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

RESPONSE

Sir:

In reply to the Office Action mailed September 25, 2002, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of the pending rejections and reexamination of the present application in view of the following remarks.

Applicants respectfully request a three-month extension of time to respond to the Office Action.

AMENDMENTS

IN THE SPECIFICATION

Please replace the paragraph on page 2, lines 8-14 with the following:

AI
This application is related to U.S. Patent Application Number 09/721,042, entitled
"Methods and Computer Software Products for Predicting Nucleic Acid Hybridization